

**LYNDEBOROUGH BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 16, 2022**  
*Final*

**I. Call to Order:**

Acting Chairman Mark Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Introduction of Members Present:**

Selectman Mark Chamberlain and Selectman Robert Howe

Chairman Fred Douglas was excused

Town Administrator Russ Boland and minute taker Kathleen Humphreys

**Public & Media Present:** Jessie Salisbury, Tax Collector/Town Clerk Trish Schultz, Planning Board member Bob Rogers, Lou Rota, and Bob Newton

**III. Appointments:**

**6:05 p.m.: Tax Collector/Town Clerk Trish Schultz was present**

The school portion of the tax rate went down slightly, which was applied to the taxes. The Town portion went up a bit because the cost of living is higher, especially with budget items such as diesel fuel. To offset the town's portion of the tax increase, \$40,500 from the Unassigned Fund Balance was used to hold the tax rate at \$22.10.

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion to apply \$40,500 of the Unreserved Fund Balance to the New Hampshire Department of Revenue's 2022 property tax formula resulting in a property tax rate of \$22.10. Selectman Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

**6:10 p.m. Planning Board Interviews & Appointments**

Planning Board member Bob Rogers is requesting the Selectmen accept his resignation as a full member of the Planning Board and appoint him as an alternate member. Mr. Rogers said, "I still have something to contribute but looking at what's ahead for the Planning Board, with the Master Plan, it requires a lot of energy, and I don't have that much. I can serve adequately as an alternate. I know the drill. There is hardly a piece of land in town I'm not aware of. I was appointed in 1997. I still have something to contribute to the Board, Committee and Town."

**6:15 p.m. Arnie Byam re: Planning Board Opening**

Mr. Byam withdrew his interest in becoming a member of the Planning Board.

Selectman Chamberlain explained they are looking for a full-time member and alternates to fill the spots. The members would need to regularly attend meetings and will follow Town Zoning and the State of New Hampshire regulations. Selectman Howe added, "We are looking for people who can hold the line. There are rules and regulations, and we are all subject to those rules and regulations. Regardless things may not always go a person's way but there again, we are all equal and equally responsible. We are searching for those people on the Board."

Selectman Chamberlain said, "We try to approach this with the Select Board and Planning Board, we treat people the same. Regardless of if you have been here 50-years or new to Town or if you know what you are doing with business before the Board or no, we treat you the same. It's your neighbors coming in. It needs to be amical and fair".

**6:15 p.m. Lou Rota and Bob Newton re: Planning Board Openings**

The Selectmen asked Lou Rota what he could contribute.

Mr. Rota said, "I'm a new resident of Lyndeborough and moved up here 4.5 years ago from Massachusetts. I like the town and the community. I can say after a year, I knew more people and had more friends here than in Stowe, Mass. This speaks to the community. I'm glad I live here and have an interest in serving the community. If I can be useful, I would be happy to help."

Mr. Rota owns the old Joslin Farm on Center Road. "I own a piece of property in the center town and have a small farm. I have respect for property owners but at the same time would love to try to help preserve the things about this town that we all love and what made us move here in the first place and stuff that keeps you from moving away."

Lou Rota earned a BS and MBA both at Northeastern University. He career was in marine electronics such as navigation equipment for boats, ships, and airplanes. He has travelled extensively. He served 12-years in the National Trade Association. "I enjoyed the environment with the association as a member of the team and I work well in that environment.

The Selectmen asked Bob Newton what he can contribute.

Bob Newton said he and his wife moved here 3.5-years ago from Virginia. "She is from Rhode Island, and I lived all over the world. My career was in investment banking in the United State, Asia and Europe for 30-years. I worked in management consultant. Here in Lyndeborough we have a small homestead farm and are renovating an old horse farm and bringing it back into production with our animals; pigs, sheep poultry. We will spend the rest of our lives in this town. We like the homestead. We believe in local sourcing and local community. Everywhere I lived I have served." The Selectmen asked Mr. Newton questions.

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded to accept Bob Rogers' resignation as a full-time Planning Board member. Motion passed 2-0.**

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded to appointed Lou Rota as a full-time member of the Planning Board with a term that expires in 2024. Motion passed 2-0.**

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded to appointed Bob Newton to an alternate position on the Planning Board with a term that expires in 2023. Motion passed 2-0.**

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded to appointed Bob Rogers to an alternate position on the Planning Board to fill the vacant position of Alyssa Lavoie, with a term that expires in 2025. Motion passed 2-0**

**IV. Community Forum and Public Comment:**

Jessie Salisbury said the three “Welcome to Lyndeborough” signs arrived. The Road Agent and sign maker are coordinating the locations now.

**V. Decision Making Actions:**

**a. Old/Tabled Business:**

**Selectmen’s Review of the 2023 Budget**

The overall budget is up 5.6%

During the Budget Committee meetings, the budget documents will be shown on a projector allowing Finance Officer Paul Hebert can make any changes are they occur.

Selectman Chamberlain asked if the Keno question will be a Petition Warrant Article. T/A Boland said it appears it's a ballot question. The office is consulting with lottery officials and DRA. There may be an additional ballot question in relation to the veteran credits which was suggested by Avitar, the assessing software contractor. The previous vote two-years ago needs to be reestablished otherwise it resets to the State minimum.

**b. New Business:**

No items.

**c. Items not on Agenda:**

No items.

**VI. Town Administrator Report**

Sale of the Dodge 5500 vehicle.

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded to sell the Highway Dept’s 2016 Dodge Ram Dump Truck, VIN: 3C7WRNAJ9GG373597 and to further authorize T/A Boland to place the vehicle on Municibid with a reserve price of \$35,000, with the auction terminating on Monday, November 28, 2022. This sale will be subject to the vote of the Board of Selectmen to approve or reject the bids received at the November 30, 2022 Selectmen’s Meetings. Motion passed 2-0**

The Police Department’s budget was scheduled for the January 2 meeting, but that is a holiday, so Chief Deware will present the department’s budget on January 23, 2023.

T/A Boland presented the 2023 Holiday Schedule.

The office will be moving forward with “Positive Pay” with TD Bank to enter information for another layer of cyber security.

## **VII. Selectmen's Report**

### **a. MACC Base Action & Agenda**

T/A Boland attended a meeting a few days ago. There is another meeting tonight. At the next BOS meeting, the MACC Base director will join them to sign the agreement. The 2023 cost is about a \$1,000 more.

### **b. Transportation Committee**

There was a meeting last week, which Selectman Chamberlain attended, but there was no quorum. Regardless, they discussed traffic safety for the area. The safety line is flat now but has been improving. There have been more fatalities than they would like to see. The goal is to improve that every year. NRPC is obligated to set targets as part of the Federal grant process.

### **c. Planning Board**

There is a meeting tomorrow night, which includes a Public Hearing for zoning amendments. There will be another public hearing in December. The Brock 3-lot subdivision is on the agenda.

### **d. Heritage Commission**

Their next meeting will be in January 2023.

The Heritage Commission is looking at sign locations on both ends of Lyndeborough on Rt. 31 and on Center Road, just down from Fitch's. The abutting landowners agree with the locations. The yellow stake is an identification for Dig Safe.

### **e. Conservation Commission**

The Commission recently met and discussed wetlands buffer zones. Selectman Chamberlain said what he didn't get out of that meeting, was the Commission's push for public outreach, to get people to know why we are doing this. The Commission needs to put the material together explaining to people why they want the buffers.

Jessie Salisbury said she would be willing to assist with helping to get the information out. The next meeting is in December.

### **Ambulance Committee**

The Committee met Monday night in Wilton. Last night they had a joint meeting with the Budget Committee. On November 22 at 5:45 p.m., Wilton will be visiting Greenfield and Lyndeborough is welcomed to attend. The Selectmen were asked if they wanted to attend, and it was agreed to post the meeting in case they have a quorum.

## **VIII. Consent Agenda:**

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded to accept the Consent Agenda for November 16, 2022 items 1-11. Motion passed 2-0.**

## **IX. Information Items Requiring No Discussion**

None

**X. Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II**  
None

**VOTE: Selectman Howe made a motion, Selectman Chamberlain seconded adjourn at 6:58 p.m. Motion passed 3-0.**

**XI. Adjournment:**

All scheduled items having been addressed, the public meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Next regular meeting: November 30, 2022 at Citizens' Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Kathleen Humphreys, Transcriber

Chairman Fred Douglas \_\_\_\_\_

Selectman Mark Chamberlain \_\_\_\_\_

Selectman Robert Howe \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Consent Agenda – November 16, 2022</b>		
<b>Item #</b>	<b>Item Title</b>	<b>Approved</b>
1	AP Warrants – November 8 & November 16, 2022	Y
2	Payroll Warrant – October 31, 2022, through November 13, 2022	Y
3	VALIC ACH Payroll Warrant – October 31, 2022, through November 13, 2022	Y
4	Request for Approval of Purchase Order # 2866 – Snow Plow Sales – Sander & Equipment for New 2022 Ford F350 (\$8,244.00 – Inv. # 12198)	Y
5	Request to Approve Issuance of Timber Yield Tax Levy & Warrant, Lavoie (21-279-04T, Map-Lot (220-048-000)), Accessed Via Center Road	Y
6	Appointment of Louis Rota as Full Member of the Planning Board Term Ending March 11, 2024 & Execution of Oath of Office	Y
7	Appointment of Robert Newton as Alternate Member of the Planning Board Term Ending March 13, 2023, & Execution of Oath of Office	Y
8	Appointment of Robert Rogers as an Alternate member of the Planning Board Term Ending March 10, 2025, & Execution of Oath of Office	Y
9	Board of Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2022	Y
10	Board of Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes – November 2, 2022	Y
11	Board of Selectmen's Non-Public (c & l) Meeting Minutes – November 2, 2022	Y